



# the cog-nitive courier

## tacoma wheelmen's bicycle club newsletter

po box 112078 tacoma, wa 98411 [www.twbc.org](http://www.twbc.org) 253-759-2800

TWBC, originally established in 1888 & reinvigorated in 1974, is a general purpose bicycling club in Pierce County that welcomes cyclists of all skill levels for social riding. The COG is issued monthly.

### President's Report

By President Darrell "EZZ" Eslinger

Web Issue: August, 2013

So how has your riding been this last month?

I have met several new riders, returning summer and older riders. Like Liz, John, Alex, Dave and Eric. It's great to ride with you.

This makes me think our Club can be doing a better job for those who want to ride but the weekday rides are not convenient for them. Or they would like a more leisurely pace. Shorter rides. Evening rides, family rides with kids. We can do better!

But we do need more Ride Leaders for this to happen. To make our Club available for all.

Being a Ride Leader is not very hard, the training is very minimal and the description can be found on the Website under "Ride Resources / Ride Leader Help". We are in need of evening Ride Leaders now and for the future. You do not have to Lead the ride alone, or start a ride by your self. Sharing the Leader responsibilities with another's can help. Let me hear from those curious or interested. We can start rides together. So keep looking at the Ride Schedule for new and different rides.

I was able to attend a meeting with Bob Myrick and the City of Tacoma about a celebration that is happening on September 22nd. Dome to Point Defiance that our Club is being honored to start. Our job will be leading a bike ride from the Dome over a new route from Schuster through Point Ruston to Point Defiance Park. A new ramp to the park not over a road. Keep an eye on the ride schedule and the Web Site for particulars; Bob - great news.

Lastly, are You participating in the RAPSODY? Our last major Ride Event of the year. Ride if you want. But there is *(always a)* need for more volunteers. We need help.

See you out and about. ☺

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By Bob Myrick, Director of  
Community and Government Affairs

*Actions affecting you  
and your community .....*

Our committee met again on Tuesday, July 2 at the Harvester Restaurant in the Stadium District at First and Tacoma Avenues. The next two meetings will be on a different date due to conflicts. In August, we will meet on the first Monday. In September, we will also meet the first Monday, Labor Day. As I have said many times there are over 30 government entities that we could be working with and I have a suggestion below under State of our Trails.

1. Eatonville's Bud Blanchard Trail. The Town has not been able to move forward with construction this spring since the Town spent the \$300,000 or so in donated funds for general operations due to the depression. The Town is restoring the donation in an installment method so there may be risk of losing State matching funds. I will be talking with Eatonville's Administration regarding this matter.

2. State Legislature. Ralph reported the Legislature did a poor job regarding funding important transportation projects including non-motorized needs. A 10 cent gas tax proposal didn't get very far.

3. John Wayne Trail. I have begun a process of asking King County's Park operation and Bicycle Alliance of Washington to lobby Seattle Water to open a trail connection thru a small corner of their Cedar River Watershed. It may be possible to connect the Cedar River Trail to Rattlesnake Lake and the John Wayne Trail over Snoqualmie Pass. Both Tacoma and Seattle are under new orders from EPA to upgrade their water treatment. Tacoma is filtering the Green River and Seattle has decided to use just ultra violet light treatment.

4. Transportation Commission. Both Jane Moore and I have applied to be members of Tacoma's new Transportation Commission. I also applied to be on Tacoma's Sustainability Commission.

5. Bollards. Ralph reported some bollards on the Foothills Trail may not meet current standards that require a diamond shaped stripe around the bollard along with stripes that extend out in the path of travel. I investigated and found this defect to be in Orting on the special marking that TWBC helped pay for to enhance safety.

6. Puyallup. There has been very little progress in getting the JEB Thruway constructed between Shaw Road and 134th Street. Likewise, on 134th Street towards the Riverwalk, there has been very little progress. I have hoped Puyallup might lay down Sharrows on Pioneer Ave from downtown to the Meeker Trailhead. Puyallup also has the future capacity of removing a travel lane and installing bike lanes or a cycletrack along Pioneer.

7. State of our Trail Development. I am a member of both Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition and the Forevergreen Trails Council. There is very great concern that trail acquisition and construction is not moving forward in Pierce County. Foothills mission is to see trail construction thruout our County, but their focus is very oriented to the Puyallup Valley and there is limited staff available to lobby for trails. Forevergreen is also interested in providing trails thruout Pierce County and it is a forum of government officials, government workers and trail advocates. Forevergreen has a paid Executive Director who works a very limited amount of time due to budget constraints. There is not much funding available for trails and Pierce County must rely on grants to get the Foothills Trail built from South Prairie to Buckley.

**GAC, continued on page 3**

I intend to try to bring Foothills and Forevergreen and TWBC closer together with a more common voice and effort. I am hoping that TWBC will provide more financial support to Forevergreen and Foothills will also provide support to show a common voice and effort.

With regard to Pierce County trails, I hope the Public Works Department will become much more involved in developing trails particularly in South Hill Puyallup. I hope they will understand that trails are very much transportation projects. For example, in Tacoma the Public Works department is building the trail infrastructure. There are almost 300 miles of possible trails in Pierce County, a huge amount. So, it will be necessary to step back and decide where to concentrate our efforts on trail development. Additionally, we will need to acquire the right of ways and build soft surface trails for the time being with hard surface to come later in better times.

As I mentioned there are over 30 government entities we should be working with, so I hope we can be successful in bringing TWBC, Foothills and Forevergreen closer together with common voice and effort.

Please ride your bike. It is good for you and the environment. Ride more and worry less. ☺

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**Membership Report  
by Dave Killen**



*Our Members are what  
makes our Club!*

**Renewing Members (Thank You!):**

Steve Brown, Jack Daniel, John Davis, Ernst Coumou, Robert Hawes, Roy Harris, Shelly Harris, Fletch Kistler, Anthony Paulson, Raymond Rosario, Jim Weger and Jan Wieser.

**New Members (Welcome!):**

Dale Christensen, Ralph Fitzgerald, Terrence Mace, Henry McKee, Gregory Meed, Heather Mickler, and Craig VanMeter.



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Your article could have been here  
for Members to read! ☺



### *Thursday Rides*

Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29: @ 9:30 AM, 2 - 3 A or 2 - 3 D, **Foothills Trail or Victor Falls.** Ride to S. Prairie via Foothills Trail. Paved trail w/ very few road crossings. Beverage of your choice in S. Prairie (no host). Or, for a challenging 1000 ft of climbing, go over Victor Falls. **Start:** East Puyallup Trailhead, 13900 - 80th St E, Puyallup.

### *Friday Rides*

Aug. 2: @ 8 AM, 2 B, **Four Rivers Ride.** Ride along & over Puyallup, Green, Cedar & White rivers. Lunch @ Black Diamond Bakery. Bike to Renton, up Cedar River Trail to Maple Valley, Blk Diamond, over Green River Gorge, Enumclaw, Buckley, returning to Sumner by Victor Falls. Short stops along ride to water & fuel up. **Start:** Sumner Library, 1116 Fryer Ave., Sumner.

### *Saturday Rides*

Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: @ 9 AM, 3 B - C, 60 - 100 miles. **Tacoma Bike Shop Ride.** Fun but challenging road ride to destinations from Gig Harbor to Bonney Lake & Dupont. **Note:** This is not a TWBC Ride, but a Tacoma Bike Shop Ride. **Start:** Tacoma Bike, 309 Puyallup Ave., Tacoma.

: @ 9:30 AM, X Pace, X Dist. **Bonney Lake Bike Shop Ride.** Happens every Sat. **Note:** This is not a TWBC Ride, but a Bonney Lake Bike Shop Ride. **Start:** Bonney Lake Bike Shop, 1406 Main St., Sumner.

### *Another Saturday Ride*

Aug. 3: @ 9:30 AM, 3 D, 82 miles, 6000 ft of climbing. **Ashford, Packwood, Paradise.** Ride will start 9:30 - 10 AM. Bring 3 energy bars & you may need \$\$\$ to enter park. Start: Whittaker's Bunkhouse complex in Ashford.

### *Sunday Rides*

Aug. 4, 11, 18, 25: @ 11 AM, 2 B, 25 - 35 miles, **Sunny Sunday Ride.** A chance to ride somewhere fun, provided there is a chance of sunshine and not too much rain. **Start:** Starbucks @ 26th & Proctor.

### *Monday Rides*

Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26: @ 9:30 AM, 1 C, **Hail, Hardy & Ready for Coffee.** Loop Pt. Defiance. Someone will stay w/ the slowest rider. Regroup @ Ft. Nisqually., then onto Fircrest for espresso/raspberry scones. You can shorten to 13 miles by cutting out Fircrest. **Start:** Starbucks @ 26th & Proctor.

### *More Monday Happenings:*

Aug. 5: @ 6 PM, **Government Affairs Meeting** @ the Harvester Restaurant in the Stadium H.S. area @ 1st & Tacoma Ave. Work on bicycle problems around Pierce County. All are invited to participate.



**Tuesday Rides**

Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27: @ 9:30 AM, 2 C, **Tuesday Decide to Ride.** Meet w/ friends & go to lunch. **Start:** to be announced. Call the Ride Line, 253 - 759 - 2800.

**More Tuesday Happenings:**

Aug 13: @ 6 PM, **Board Meeting** @ the Kim Ahn Restaurant across from TCC on Mildred. Guests & Club Members welcomed.

**Wednesday Rides**

Aug. 7, 21: @ 9:30 AM, 3 C, **Ride the Chehalis Western Trial.** Rain in Tacoma Cancels. Ride from Chambers Creek Trailhead to Tenino to stop & buy lunch. **Start:** Trailhead in Lacy, past Josephine Ct SE & 14th Ave S.

Aug. 14, 28: @ 9 AM, 2 B, **Ride to Dupont** for coffee via Steilacoom for a nice workout. **Start:** Skyline Park & Ride (6th & Skyline).

**Multi-Day Rides**

Aug. 24 - 25: @ 7 AM, All. **RAPSody.** Pre-registration required. Check the Club Website for info on this 5 Sisters ride benefit for Bicycle Alliance of Washington. **Start:** TCC, Tacoma. [www/rapsodybikeride.com](http://www/rapsodybikeride.com).

Aug. 28 - 29: @ 8 AM, 3 D, 155/>200 miles 7000 ft of climbing. **WIMPROD.** Ride around Mt. Rainier in 2 days. Self-supporting ride unless a SAG vehicle magically appears. Leave Tacoma ~8 AM w/ brief appearance @ the Orting Bakery ~9:30 to 10 AM & lunch @ Whittaker’s bunkhouse complex ~1 PM. From Tacoma, less than 200 miles; start & end from Orting, ~155 miles.

**For TWBC Monthly Ride/Event Calendar**

**RIDE CODE CHART, TERRAIN**

- A - Mostly Flat (Interurban Trail)
- B - Gently rolling with one or two steep hills
- C - Rolling steeper hills (Kitsap Peninsula)
- D - Difficult terrain with longer, steeper hills (Vashon Island)

**RIDE CODE CHART, PACE**

Pace Code Examples: Average mph on flat surface:

- 1 - Easy pace, frequent stops to catch up and regroup, 9-12 mph on flats.
- 2 - Moderate pace, occasional stops to catch up and regroup, 12-15 mph.
- 3 - Steady pace, limited stops, cue sheets or maps provided, 13-16mph.
- 4 - Fast pace, very limited stops, cue sheets or maps provided, 16+ mph.

# The COG Home

**TWBC Ride Line : 253 - 759 - 2800**

**Updated Sunday & Thursday!**

The 'Smiling Bicycle' Logo, the Club Jersey & a majority of Club Ride T-shirts were (are) designed by Member Steve Lay.



**Sept. Ride Calendar Deadline:  
Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2013**

**Sept. COG Article Deadline:  
Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2013**

**Next Club Meeting: 6 PM  
Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2013**

*Please keep Database Commander Dave updated as to any USPS/E-mail address changes.  
It makes his job a lot easier! (If you don't receive your Newsletter, contact the Editor!)*

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## **PRESIDENT:**

[president@twbc.org](mailto:president@twbc.org)

Darrel Eslinger, 820 - 6325

## **VICE - PRESIDENT:**

[vp@twbc.org](mailto:vp@twbc.org)

Joyce Clifford

## **SECRETARY:**

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Assistant: Linda Higgins

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Bob Myrick, 473 - 7455

Assistant: Don Hoover

## **DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EVENTS:**

[events@twbc.org](mailto:events@twbc.org)

Daniel Jones

*(All Phone #s are 253 Area Code, unless otherwise indicated.)*

## **ACTING NEWSLETTER**

### **EDITOR (Temporary):**

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Dena Wessels, 857 - 5658

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Rich Walter, 840 - 9450

## **TWBC SAFETY & EDUCATION**

Jim Ahrens, 566 - 3347

## **TWBC EQUIPMENT :**

[equipment@twbc.org](mailto:equipment@twbc.org)

Sue Coley

Assistant: Peggy Fjetland

## **TWBC PUBLICITY:**

[publicity@twbc.org](mailto:publicity@twbc.org)

Anita Beninger

## **DAFFODIL CLASSIC**

**(2013): APRIL 14**

[daffodil@twbc.org](mailto:daffodil@twbc.org)

Daniel Jones & friends

## **PENINSULA METRIC**

**(2013): JUNE 2**

[pmc@twbc.org](mailto:pmc@twbc.org)

Daniel Jones & friends

## **RAPSody Contact:**

**(2013): Aug. 24 & 25**

[rapsodybikeride@comcast.net](mailto:rapsodybikeride@comcast.net)

Ralph Wessels, 857 - 5658

## **BIKE EXPO:**

**(2012): March 10 & 11**

[bikebooth@twbc.org](mailto:bikebooth@twbc.org)

--Unfilled @ this time--

## **ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC:**

**(2010): Sept. 26 (?)**

--Unfilled @ this time--

## **CLUB JERSEY SALES:**

[jerseys@twbc.org](mailto:jerseys@twbc.org)

--Unfilled @ this time--

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**Advertisement Requirements:** TWBC Members may place ads in the COG for free that are directly related to bicycling. All ads must be accompanied with contact information (i.e., name, address, phone number, email) of the person submitting the ad.

Local bicycle shops that offer a discount of at least ten percent (10%) to TWBC Members may place ads or flyers in the COG for free. "Local" is defined as within the Puget Sound area. Each bicycle shop may place up to two ads for free in a calendar year.

Non-members, agencies, businesses and bicycle shops that do not offer discounts of at least ten percent (10%) to TWBC Members will be charged for placing ads in the COG. Payment for the ad must be received prior to inclusion into the COG. The fee shall not be less than \$10 for a 1-line text ad and will be a minimum of \$50 for quarter page ads or more. The Newsletter Editor will determine an appropriate fee based upon the size and complexity of the ad. All ads are subject to editing and space limitations as deemed appropriate or necessary by the Newsletter Editor. ☺



August  
2013

Tacoma Wheelmen's Bicycle Club  
PO Box 112078  
Tacoma, WA 98411

mail to:

Please Note: The COG is now available electronically via the Club Website only, as there is not an elected Editor to produce a USPS issue.



Please Note: You can become a Member at [www.twbc.org](http://www.twbc.org). Click on 'Membership' on the left side.

*B e c o m e a M e m b e r o f T W B C*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

(all info. is for Club use only; please print clearly!)

**Please Check Those That Apply:**

New Member       Renew       Addr Chg

Please Note: *COG* delivery is now electronically via E-mail, as there is not an elected Editor to produce a USPS issue.

Individual Person Membership Fee ..... \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

Or, Family Membership Fee ..... \$20 \_\_\_\_\_

One-time Initiation Fee ..... \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

Total Membership Fee(s) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send this form and a check for the total \$ amount to:

**TWBC Membership**  
PO Box 112078  
Tacoma, WA 98411

Check the following boxes if you are interested in volunteering for:

- Leading Bike Rides
- Events  
(Daffodil, PMC)
- Newsletter
- Club Meeting Programs
- Becoming a Club Officer

Thanks for becoming a Member of TWBC!